

CITY OF MESA
HUMAN RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD (HRAB)
Ad Hoc Youth Diversity Education Team (YDET)
February 19, 2014 Minutes

The Youth Diversity Education Team of Mesa met on February 19th, 2014,
at 5:00pm at the Mesa City Plaza, 20 E. Main St. Ste. 250.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Denise Heap
Tony Liuzzo
Talmage Pearce

MEMBERS ABSENT

STAFF PRESENT

Ruth Giese

GUESTS

1. Call to Order.

Mr. Pearce called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

2. Items from citizens present.

There were no citizens who requested to speak to YDET.

3. Approval of minutes from the December 18th, 2013 YDET meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Pearce to approve the December 18th, 2013 minutes, Dr. Liuzzo seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Discuss and take action on the replacement of subcommittee Chair for 2013/2014.

Mr. Pearce nominated Dr. Liuzzo for subcommittee Chair. The nomination will be carried for the board.

5. Hear an update, discuss and take action on Cinema Series program in high schools as means of educating youth on diversity related issues.

Ms. Giese advised that staff member, Emily Blankenship, has been working with Dobson High School faculty to extend the Cinema Series in that school. In January, twenty-five students from the Spanish Club viewed the film 'Las Marthas'. Faculty created and led a post screening dialogue which yielded positive feedback. Faculty would like to pursue similar efforts by showing the film 'Medora' to selected students in May. Ms. Giese also noted that there is a youth leadership club on campus that may be interested in organizing the viewings and post dialogues for their classmates starting in the fall. A motion was made by Ms. Heap that staff continues to work with local high schools to show diversity related films, Mr. Pearce seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Discuss, consider and take action on an interactive blog on diversity.

Ms. Giese stated that per direction from the previous YDET meeting, she reached out to the Mayor's Youth Committee (MYC) who would be willing to help disseminate a survey gaging the youths' perspective on an interactive blog and/or other forms of distributing diversity education. Dr. Liuzzo questioned if it would be an online or hard copy survey. In response, Ms. Giese advised it would likely be a hard copy format. Dr. Liuzzo questioned the other board members what information they are trying to obtain through the survey. Ms. Heap recapped the intention behind an interactive education program and blog as discussed in previous meetings.

The board members agreed that it would be better to question the MYC members directly on what kind diversity education they would like to see and what format would be recommended. Staff was directed to arrange an open discussion meeting with MYC during one of their meetings.

7. Discuss, consider and take action on plans for contacting school clubs and organizations.

Ms. Heap advised that they were unable to accomplish previous plans to speak with school clubs and organizations prior to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade in January. Ms. Heap suggested that they also question MYC members regarding the best means for contacting school clubs and organizations.

8. Discuss, consider and take action on a sex trafficking education program.

Ms. Heap stated that this is a new agenda item based on interest shown after the Mesa Police Department presentation from the last board meeting. Ms. Heap suggested that they work further with the Mesa Police Department to promote awareness and education on the matter. Dr. Liuzzo questioned why YDET is the best committee to work on this task. In response, Ms. Heap advised that they would focus on raising awareness to high school students who are frequently targeted. YDET members continued to discuss the relevance of the item and how they could address it in the future. A motion was made by Ms. Heap that this topic be added to the HRAB work plan and be sent to the regular meeting for approval, Mr. Pearce seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

9. Discuss future agenda items, meeting dates, announcements, other housekeeping.

- Next YDET meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 12th, 2014 at 5pm.

10. Adjournment.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30pm.

Submitted By:



Ruth Giese,
Diversity Program Administrator